

CLAIMS

1. A method of, in the compressed domain, forming a composed video image having a first format comprising a number of different original video images having a second format, when the original images are coded using an algorithm forming a video stream comprising a number of independent segments, **characterized by** the steps of:

- composing the original video images having a second format into one image having the first format, and
- inserting a segment header at the intersection between a first row of original images in the composed image and a second row of original images in the composed image.

2. A method according to claim 1, **characterized by** the additional step of:

- performing a stepwise change of quantizer value at the cross-section between adjacent original images in the composed image.

3. A method according to any of claims 1 or 2, **characterized by** the additional step of:

- introducing a new segment header at the beginning of every line of the image.

4. A method according to any of claims 1 - 3, **characterized by** the additional step of:

- recalculating any motion vectors being different between the first and second format.

5. A method according to any of claims 1 - 4, **characterized in** that the transmission standard used is H.263 or MPEG-4.

6. A method according to any of claims 1 - 5, **characterized in** that the independent segments are group of blocks (GOB).

7. A method according to claim 1, when the coding method used is H.263 and supporting Annex T, **characterized by** the additional

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step of:

- setting a new value in the macroblock at the cross-section between adjacent original images in the composed image.

8. A method according to any of claims 1 - 7, when flexible type segments are available, **characterized in** that segments corresponding to rows in the sub images are used.

9. A computer program, which when run on a computer, performs the method according to any of claims 1 - 4.

10. An apparatus comprising means for, in the compressed domain, forming a composed video image having a first format comprising a number of different original video images having a second format, when the original images are coded using an algorithm forming a video stream comprising a number of independent segments, **characterized by:**

- means for composing the original video images having a second format into one image having the first format, and
- means for inserting a segment header at the intersection between a first row of original images in the composed image and a second row of original images in the composed image.

11. An apparatus according to claim 10, **characterized by:**

- means for performing a stepwise change of quantizer value at the cross-section between adjacent original images in the composed image.

12. An apparatus according to any of claims 10 - 11, **characterized by:**

- means for introducing a new segment header at the beginning of every line of the image.

13. An apparatus according to any of claims 10 - 12, **characterized by:**

- means for recalculating any motion vectors being different between the first and second format.

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